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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

February 11, 2013

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 – 17th Street N.W., Washington, D.C., 20503. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, D.C. 20250-7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential

*Billing Code 3410-XT

persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

*Billing Code 3410-20

National Agricultural Statistics Service

TITLE: Cold Storage

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0535-0001

SUMMARY OF COLLECTION: The primary objective of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is to prepare and issue State and national estimates of crop and livestock production, value and disposition. The monthly Cold Storage Survey provides information on national supplies of food in refrigerated storage facilities. A biennial survey of refrigerated warehouses is also conducted to provide a benchmark of the capacity available for refrigerated storage of the nation's food supply. The data will be collected under the authority of 7 U.S.C. 2204(a). This statute specifies "The Secretary of Agriculture shall procure and preserve all information concerning agriculture which he can obtain...by the collection of statistics... and shall distribute them among agriculturists."

NEED AND USE OF THE INFORMATION: USDA agencies such as the World Agricultural Outlook Board, Economic Research Service, and Agricultural Marketing Service use this information from the Cold Storage report in setting and administering government commodity programs and in supply and demand analysis. Included in the report are stocks of pork bellies, frozen orange juice concentrate, butter, and cheese which are traded on the Chicago Board of Trade. The timing and frequency of the surveys have evolved to meet the needs of producers, facilities, agribusinesses, and government agencies.

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS: Business or other for-profit

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 1,700

FREQUENCY OF RESPONSES: Reporting: Monthly; Biennially

*Billing Code 3410-20

TOTAL BURDEN HOURS: 4,173

Charlene Parker
Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer

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